

CENTERING PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP for EASTER

6:00 Prayer period begins

6:20 Prayer period ends with the following:

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia!

Worship begins

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Officiant Let us say:

**All O Beloved, whom will You invite
into the abode of your Heart?
Who will dwell with You in Love?**

**One who walks with integrity, who
is in harmony with your Word,
and sings the heart's song;**

**Whose tongue speaks truth
judging not others and
seeking only the good;**

**Whose eyes behold not the outer
garments of the body,
but sees within the inner robe
of Love;**

**Whose own weaknesses are acknowledged
and brought to light in prayer;**

**Who is just in all affairs of life
and takes not advantage of
another.**

**One who does all these things,
will join the Dance of Life!
will sing the Song of Joy!**

(adapted from Psalm 15)

Officiant I bid your petitions, your intercessions, your thanksgivings, your fears, your confessions, the desires of your heart, silently or aloud. (*A period of silence follows.*)

God enfolds you with strength and love. In faith, remain firm.

Officiant Stand and hear the Good News of the Gospel from _____.
An appointed Gospel reading is read. Afterwards the reader says
Give praise for God's Word.

People Alleluia!

All are seated to meditate on the gospel. After a period of time the officiant says

Officiant The Beloved lives in our hearts;
Love dwells with us forever.
May Love give strength to all people!
May Love bless all nations with peace!
(Psalm 29)
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

All share the peace of Christ with one another. If no priest is present the liturgy ends with all standing and saying together

**Happy are all who dwell in the Beloved's heart!
Abandon yourself into Love's hands, O you holy ones,
For those who give themselves to the Beloved, lack no good thing. Amen. Amen.**

If a priest is present for worship and there is to be a eucharist, bread and wine mixed with water are placed on a table covered with a white cloth. An approved Eucharistic prayer shall be employed for the Liturgy of the Table. After all have received communion, the community sits to give thanks in silence. Then the officiant says

Let us pray: **Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Officiant Happy are all who dwell in the Beloved's heart!
Abandon yourself into Love's hands, O you holy ones,
For those who give themselves to the Beloved, lack no good thing.
(Psalm 34)

People Amen. Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Selections and adaptations of the psalms are from *Psalms for Praying* by Nan Merrill.